

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE
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FOR RELEASE
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HEARING SCHEDULED IN MATTER CONCERNING
JUDGE RODNEY E. NELSON

On December 7, 2005, the Commission on Judicial Performance announced it had instituted formal proceedings to inquire into matters concerning Judge Rodney E. Nelson, a judge of the Los Angeles County Superior Court. The hearing has been scheduled to begin on Monday, February 6, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. in the courtroom of the Fourth District Court of Appeal (Division Three) at 925 North Spurgeon Street in Santa Ana, California. The hearing will be open to the public.

Under the rules that govern Commission proceedings, the hearing will be conducted by special masters appointed by the Supreme Court. At the hearing, the parties will have an opportunity to introduce evidence and examine and cross-examine witnesses. Commission Trial Counsel Jack Coyle, Esq. has been designated as examiner. Judge Nelson is represented by attorney Edward P. George, Jr., of Long Beach, California.

Following completion of the hearing, the special masters will provide the Commission with a report containing their findings with respect to the charges. The parties will have an opportunity to respond to the report through briefing and argument before the Commission. If the Commission determines that the charges are proved by clear and convincing evidence, it is empowered to retire the judge for disability as provided in the California Constitution.

The Commission is composed of three judges, two lawyers, and six public members. The Chairperson is Marshall B. Grossman, Esq. of Los Angeles, California.

For further information about the Commission on Judicial Performance, see the Commission's Web page at www.cjp.ca.gov.